Subject No. 158.

The mileage rate for post bullocks and carts.

Messrs. Amble Annaiya Pandit, D. Narasimhaiya of Chamrajnagar, and C. Srinivasa Rao of Chikmagalur.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The present rates for dak bullocks, *viz.*, 1½ and 3 annas respectively, were fixed long ago, and should be raised to 2 and 4 annas.—(*b*) The convenience of Government officers has been met by an enhancement of the rates of travelling allowance payable to them. In consideration of the present high prices of horse gram and grass, the raiyats in the maidan districts may be allowed four annas a mile for a pair of post bullocks, and two annas a mile for each country cart, those in the malnad districts being allowed six annas a mile for a pair of post bullocks, and two annas a mile for each country cart hired of them by travellers. The existing rates were fixed in the days of the British Commission, when gram was 30 seers the rupee; whereas it is now only 10 seers.

Reply of Government.—This will be looked into.

Subject No. 159.

Extension of period for relinquishment.

Messrs. Ramnarasiah of Mandya Taluk, Amble Annaiya Pandit, Srinivasamurti of Gorur, M. Venkatramaiya of Channarayapatna and Narasinga Rao of Hunsur.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The time within which relinquishments of lands are to be made is fixed to be the end of April. This time would suit well if the official year were to close by the end of March. Now that the official year terminates by the end of June, great hardship is experienced by the relinquishment not being accepted before the payment of the kandayam, which, however, will remain unpaid owing to the change in khists. The period for relinquishment should be altered so as to end with June, or two alternative periods ending with March and June allowed.

Reply of Government.—The present period has been fixed after considering the seasons of cultivation and other conditions peculiar to each district.

Revenue collections.

Mr. M. K. Krishnamurti Rao.

(*b*) The year should close with December and not with June for the purpose of revenue collection. If default be made in paying up the kandayam in any one of the four khists beginning with February, coercive measures for its recovery should not be adopted before June of that year. The rule should be altered so that the recovery of the entire assessment in a lump should only be resorted to after all the khists expire.

Reply of Government.—It is not possible to alter the present rule.

Subject No. 160.

Maintenance of avenue trees.

Messrs. A. Annaiya Pandit, D. Narasimhaiya of Chamrajnagar and Siddalingamaridevaru of T. Narsipur.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Many of the road-side avenue trees have been indiscriminately lopped, cut or otherwise damaged owing to the laxity of supervision on the part of Revenue officers, which was not the case during the British administration of the State. The Shekdar, the Police and the village officials and servants should be required to pay greater attention to the avenue trees and guard them from being injured.

(*b*) As the road-side avenue trees are not the exclusive property of the raiyats, sometimes the raiyats do not under-

take to cut and remove dead trees. It is necessary to allow raiyats to remove dead or fallen trees for their use and to stir up the village officers and the Police to guard the avenue trees from being injured. Time may also be prescribed within which a raiyat is required to plant a tree in lieu of the one cut and removed by him, and a list of avenue trees the usufruct of which is being vested in the raiyats should be prepared and kept in the village or the taluk.

Reply of Government.—This is an important matter and receives particular attention. Strict orders will be issued to Deputy Commissioners on the subject.

Subject No. 161.
Abolition of fees on Honge trees.

Mr. D. Narasimhaiyya of Chamrajnagar.

Summary of discussion.—It is an immemorial privilege of the raiyats to use the 'honge' leaves of trees standing on unoccupied Government lands for manure without payment of any fee therefor. As the honge leaves have to be obtained from distant places, not to speak of the expenses incurred for lopping the leaves, it is requested that the fee ordered to be levied by Government on the said leaves may, in the interests of the raiyats, be abolished.

Reply of Government.—The existing rate of fees is not high, and cannot be abolished or reduced.

GENERAL MISCELLANEOUS.

Subject No. 162.
Privileges of Representative Assembly Members.

Mr. B. Garudachar of Shimoga.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The Representative Assembly has been in existence for the last 19 years; and its working is being watched outside the State with interest. The privileges of the Assembly have, however, been a matter for difference of opinion. Privileges to a certain extent are granted to the members of the Legislative Councils in British India. Even these are not allowed to the Representative Assembly Members here. If Government is pleased to think we deserve enhanced privileges, they may kindly allow the same to us.

(1) Some existing rights have been taken away. For instance, Graduates of the Universities were eligible, irrespective of property qualification, for election. This was taken away by the new rules framed in 1894. It is not right and consistent to disqualify them from being elected, when they are allowed to elect others. Educated men will guide the unlettered cultivators.

(2) As a tentative measure, the votes of members may be taken when important subjects are under discussion, just as the opinion of assessors is taken in Courts.

(3) Legislative measures should be thoroughly discussed in the Assembly before being passed; and, for this purpose,